

CHICAGO LEADS
IN RACE FOR
CONVENTION

Harry New Elected Chairman of Republican Committee—Boomers Work Overtime.

Denverites and Kansas City Men Make as Much Noise as Professional Barkers.

"Kansas City's the place!" "Aw, shut up! Chicago's got an auditorium big enough to accommodate a bullfight, an automobile race, and a horse show all at once. It's the only convention town in the country!"

This is a sample of the line of talk that was being handed out before, during, and after the meeting of the Republican National Committee at the Shoreham Hotel this morning, which resulted in the election of Harry New as its chairman.

Tomorrow the committee will get down to business and decide on the time and place for the holding of the next national convention of the Republican party. In the meantime, the boomers for Kansas City, Chicago, and Denver as convention towns are on the job with a vengeance. They are making as much noise as a "barker" for a show.

Woes of Indecision.

Every now and then a member of the committee who hasn't yet made up his mind what city he will vote for and who is besieged by boomers from all three towns, yells for help, turns in a fire alarm, and asks for an ice bath.

But the boomers are without mercy. They grab committee men by the collar, pump them full of hot air, and roast them to a turn with fiery arguments about the virtues of their cities. Chicago and Kansas City boomers were far in the lead of the Denver champions today. The Denverites are out of the running, according to the best authorities, and their enthusiasm has so far ebbed that they stop to get a drink of water whenever their throats hurt them from over-talking. But the Chicago and Kansas City men don't stop for anything. They are as much in earnest as a Washington baseball player trying to stretch a three-bagger into a home run.

Chicago Gaining Ground.

Chicago is gaining ground in the talking contest, and its chances for becoming the convention city are brightening right along.

Manager Vorys, of the Taft campaign boosters, said this afternoon he didn't care whether the convention was held in Kansas City or Chicago, and that some of the Taft men would vote for Chicago, while some of the others would vote for Kansas City. This put a crimp into the Kansas City boom almost as big as the hole that was knocked in it by the bank failure out there yesterday.

All day long the Chicago men have been bragging about the money they can put up to defray the expenses of the convention. Finally, somebody in authority told them they would have to come across with a cash-iron contract to pay all the expenses of the convention and shut up about paying the "legitimate expenses." They came across right away in long, hard words. But they are still inquiring whether they will put it in writing.

How Committee Gathered.

There was so much talk about where the convention should be held that the national committee had a preliminary meeting scheduled for 11 o'clock. Finally, however, Harry New, who had an inkling that he was to be elected chairman of the body, walked into the room set aside for the meeting. Three Kansas City boomers gathered around him and talked so loudly about the advantages of going to a hot city in June when one of its biggest banks has gone up the spout that the hubbub attracted pretty much the entire membership of the committee into the room.

Taking advantage of this, Colonel Clayton, the senior member of the committee, broke three gavel and a tack hammer to flinders calling the assembly to order. After the hubbub had been put into the corridor, Mr. New read Mr. Cortelyou's resignation as chairman of the committee. Mr. New read the resignation as if he considered it a fine piece of work. After he read it he retired into the corridor, there to modestly await the notification that he had been elected to succeed Mr. Cortelyou. The not altogether distasteful notification came to him after the committee had voted unanimously, on the

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THE WEATHER REPORT.

The outlook for the next thirty-six hours points to fair weather in all portions of the district, except the South, where rain is indicated, and along the lower lakes, where light snow is probable.

The temperature will rise slowly in all districts, except eastern New York. Steamers departing today for European ports will have fresh westerly winds and fair weather to the Grand Banks.

TEMPERATURE.

9 a. m. 28
12 noon 29
1 p. m. 30
2 p. m. 31

SUN TABLE.

Sun sets today 4:38
Sun rises tomorrow 7:06

TIDE TABLE.

High water today 5:50 p. m.
Low water today 1:45 p. m.
High water tomorrow 5:30 p. m.
Low water tomorrow 1:30 p. m.

Purest and Best Dessert.

C. & S. Ice Cream, Velvet kind, Druggists.

Insane From Worry
Explains the Suicide
Of Clara Bloodgood



MRS. CLARA BLOODGOOD,
Actress Who Killed Herself in a Baltimore Hotel Last Night.

ACTRESS' HUSBAND
DECLARES LETTER
THROWS NO LIGHT

Loss in Trust Company Added to Her Troubles, Friends Say.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 6.—"It is a clear case of suicide; there is no necessity of an inquest."

In this manner the coroner's office today washed its hands of the case of Mrs. Clara Bloodgood-Laimbeer, the actress who died by her own hand in her hotel last night and robbed the American stage of one of its most talented members. At noon today her body was taken back to her old home in New York for burial.

"My wife was undoubtedly insane from overstudy and worry as to the success of the play in which she was starring," declared Laimbeer today following his arrival from New York. At that time he had interviewed William Courtenay, leading man in the company in which his wife was playing.

Letter Doesn't Explain.

The letter to Laimbeer left by Mrs. Bloodgood was expected to throw some light on the tragedy. It was taken possession of by the coroner last night and turned over to Laimbeer with the seals unbroken today. The latter read it and then put it in his pocket with the remark:

"This refers entirely to a private matter and says nothing whatever of my intention of ending her life." Laimbeer, however, did not show the letter to the coroner or any one else. Its contents are known only to himself. Members of the company and immediate friends of Mrs. Bloodgood can ascribe any reason for her act other than that she was temporarily insane. She has worked hard to make "The Truth" a success, and frequently complained that the exertion necessitated by her part robbed her of much of her nervous force. It is believed here that she fought the impulse off as long as she could.

Purchases Revolver.

Tuesday, however, she went to a gun store and bought a hammerless revolver and a manual on how to shoot straight. Yesterday she called the clerk who sold her the weapon by phone from the hotel and inquired minutely into the manner of using it.

It is pointed out today that Mrs. Bloodgood was in a highly nervous and despondent state for some weeks. All of her personal funds were tied up in the failed Knickerbocker Trust Company, of New York, and she had complained to members of her company of this fact at times, asserting she seemed doomed to disappointment forever, so far as finances were concerned.

Mr. Laimbeer said no arrangements for the funeral would be made until he reached New York.

It was learned today that Miss Bloodgood wrote two letters yesterday before killing herself. These were mailed.

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Make It a Point to Deposit

Your funds where they will earn you an income. Banking Dept. of Union Trust Co., 144 F st., pays interest on all accounts. Under control of U. S. Treasury.

BATONYI'S SAFE
FORCED BY MEN,
AND PAPERS GONE

Whip Being Sued for Divorce—His Lawyer Appeals to Police.

NEWPORT, R. I., Dec. 6.—The police here were today investigating a complaint that the private safe of Aureli Batonyi, at the two-mile farm, where he had been living until the beginning of last September with his wife, Mrs. Burke-Loch-Batonyi, who is now suing for divorce, had been blown open.

Clarke Burdick, Mr. Batonyi's legal representative here, was the one who called the attention of the police to the circumstance, and asked that they ascertain whether the safe had been rifled, and, if so, to what extent.

Great mystery hedges the safeblowing incident. According to Mr. Burdick's statements to the police, two men, strangers to the household, late last September, several weeks after Mrs. Batonyi had been seen, entered the billiard room, saying they had received authorization from Mrs. Batonyi to do so.

MRS. PEPPER-VANDERBILT
INDICTED FOR LARCENY

NEW YORK, Dec. 6.—Mrs. Mary Ann Scannell Pepper-Vanderbilt, high priestess of spiritualism in Brooklyn, was indicted today on a charge of grand larceny in the first degree. The charge grows out of the gift to Mrs. Vanderbilt of a house by her husband, who has since been adjudged incompetent to manage his affairs, and which Mrs. Vanderbilt later returned.

Mrs. Vanderbilt entered a plea of not guilty and was allowed to go until the case is called.

CHANCELLOR ILL;
CASE POSTPONED

Assistant District Attorney Stuart McNamara today indicated his willingness to continue the trial of Dr. William E. Chancellor until next Monday. Superintendent Chancellor is confined to his bed, and unable to attend the session of the board this afternoon, but may be well enough to be present Monday.

FIRE DAMAGES SHEDS.

Fire early this morning did \$75 damage to two sheds in the rear of 426 and 428 Franklin street northwest. The sheds were occupied by negroes.

Baltimore and Return, \$1.25—Baltimore & Ohio R. R. Every Saturday and Sunday. All trains both ways, both days, except Royal Limited. City offices 1447 G st. and 619 Penna. ave.

ANOTHER TERM
TO BE REFUSED
THIS AFTERNOON

President Roosevelt Will Inform Committee Positively, So Friends Declare.

Aged Pennsylvanian Calls at White House and Is Told Same Thing.

Theodore Roosevelt will declare this afternoon to the members of the Republican National Committee, when they call on him at the White House, his unalterable decision not to accept a third term in the Presidency, according to an authoritative report circulated among Republican leaders today.

The committee men are due at the White House between 2:30 and 3 o'clock. To them the President will speak informally regarding political affairs.

According to the report current today, he will take advantage of this opportunity to make known, either by direct implication or in the most positive manner, his aversion to being considered as a possible candidate for another term in the White House.

This Is Proper Time.

His friends, who quietly gave out the information of his plan to kill the third term boom this afternoon, said he regards the committee men as the best men to hear from his lips that he will, under no consideration, be a candidate. Some weeks ago the President told some of his friends at the proper time he would make known his attitude regarding the third term movement. This he regards as the proper time.

"I cannot serve beyond my present term," is the reply the President made this morning to an enthusiastic third-term greeting given him by a venerable Pennsylvanian—Samuel Watts, of Lewisburg, who is eighty-six years old, yet strong, vigorous, and active as any of fifty.

Admirer of President.

Mr. Watts, who is a great admirer of the President, called under the wing of B. H. Warner, of this city, to tell the President that the people of Pennsylvania wanted him to run again. "You are the friend of the poor man as well as of the rich man," said Mr. Watts, "and we are going to put you up again, whether you wish to or not, for we are bound to have that combination in office."

"I am much pleased to hear you say that," replied the President, "and thank you, but I cannot serve beyond my present term."

GAS HEARING
BEGINS TODAY
BEFORE GOULD

Justice Gould will probably begin this afternoon the hearing of the demurrer filed by Corporation Counsel Thomas alleging the lack of jurisdiction of the District Supreme Court in the petition filed by the Washington Gas Light Company asking for the ascertainment of the cash value of its plant and the authority to increase its capital stock.

Attorneys R. H. Goldsborough and R. Ross Perry & Sons were present in behalf of the gas company, and will follow Mr. Thomas' argument with one contending that the court does possess the constitutional right to permit such increase.

Mr. Thomas' demurrer follows the line of his opinion of November 29 to the District Commissioners, which was approved by that body and recommended to the attention of Congress, which has been requested to suspend the operation of the act under which the gas company makes its request, pending further investigation. Mr. Thomas contends that the duties imposed upon the judiciary by the act are unconstitutional, and that the act is unconstitutional and Justice Gould without jurisdiction in the premises.

Will New Blood in Senate Transform That Body? Read Sunday's Times

Four Hundred Miners Dead
In W. Virginia Explosion,
Flames Follow Concussion

HARBOR CONGRESS
HEARS SPEECHES;
ELECTS OFFICERS

Three-Minute Talks From Each State—Directors From the Various Districts.

Reports of committees on nominations and resolutions, with three-minute speeches from each delegate from each State represented at the national rivers and harbors convention took up this morning's session in the assembly room of the New Willard Hotel. Last year's officers were unanimously re-elected as follows: President, Joseph E. Randall; secretary-treasurer, Capt. J. F. Ellison, and special director, John A. Fox.

The resolutions asking Congress that material appropriations be made each year for the further construction and improvements necessary to make the rivers and waterways of this continent more potent factors in the commerce of America passed with practical unanimity. Not more than half a dozen favored the adoption of the minority report, which was read by Edward C. Plummer of Bath, Me.

The report of the committee on nominations of District delegates was passed after the name of John A. Fox had been substituted for that of Harry Clark, who had been selected by the committee to represent the Arkansas valley district.

The following directors were elected by districts: Atlantic Seaboard—William H. Lincoln, Boston; O. J. Stephens, New York; J. Hampton Moore, Philadelphia; F. D. La Londe, Philadelphia; F. W. Wood, Baltimore.

South Atlantic Seaboard—E. J. Haje, Fayette, N. C.; J. B. Dwyer, Columbia, S. C.; W. H. Stille, Savannah, Ga.; Gulf Seaboard—T. G. Bush, Birmingham, Ala.; M. J. Sanders, New Orleans; S. Tallaferr, Houston, Tex.; S. W. S. Duncan, Dallas, Tex.

Mississippi Valley—Gov. J. H. Johnson, St. Paul; Thomas W. Williamson, Burlington, Iowa; W. D. Kennett, St. Louis; W. K. Kavanaugh, St. Louis; Charles Scott, Rosedale, Miss. Great Lakes—James H. Davidson, Oshkosh, Wis.; W. P. Wicker, Chicago; E. C. Harlow, Chicago; Edward Butler, Buffalo.

Speaker Cannon Favors

Waterways Plan With A "But" and an "If"

Speaker Cannon is in favor of the deep inland waterways plan, so long as that plan be proposed and pushed along on practical lines, but he thinks he, or any other man, would be "an ass who would rush in and vote \$500,000 or \$1,000,000 in bonds for the project when we could not get ready in five years to spend 5 per cent of it."

So he told a delegation which called on him at the Capitol late yesterday afternoon. Escorted by Representative Bartholdt, the delegation, composed mostly of Memphis men, presented a set of resolutions that had been adopted in Memphis, asking for the aid of Congress for an inland waterway.

STEAMER BURNS;
ONE LIFE LOST

BALTIMORE, Dec. 6.—The passenger and freight steamer St. Mary, belonging to the Baltimore, Chesapeake and Atlantic Railway Company, was burned early this morning in the Patuxent river, thirty miles from Baltimore. The number of passengers and crew she carried is not known, but at the offices of the company it is stated that all escaped, with the exception of one member of the crew.

POSTOFFICE PREPARES
FOR CHRISTMAS RUSH

Uncle Sam today officially took off his hat to Santa Claus.

With a view to handling the annual Christmas mail with the greatest possible dispatch, the Post Office Department forwarded a request to all the other Government departments and bureaus, that, as far as possible, they delay sending out official publications until after the rush is over.

EXPERT ON MILK
KNOWS NOTHING
OF CHEMISTRY

Inspector Doesn't Know Constituents of Butter Fat—Victory for Dealers.

Surprise was furnished in the Police Court today when Inspector Hatton, who has been analyzing milk at the Health Office and prosecuting dairymen and grocers because their milk and cream failed to come up to the standard, admitted that he knew nothing of chemistry, and did not know what constituted butter fat. The case in which he was testifying, Griffith & Griffith, for selling cream containing less than 20 per cent of butter fat, was dismissed by Judge Muldowney.

Many milk dealers and grocers were in court when the case was tried, and expressed themselves rather forcefully because they had paid many hundreds of dollars to the District officers because of Hatton's pseudo-expert testimony.

Dealers Rather Pleased.

President J. B. Farquhar, of the Milk Dealers' Association, said after the trial: "We have been unjustly treated by the public, press, and, particularly, the Health Office, and I hope that since it is an admitted fact that the man who has been swearing that our milk and cream were bad, that he is a milk dealer, that we may be seen now in a more desirable light."

Gregor, of the Retail Grocers' Association, was equally pleased. "We have known ever since this milk crusade started that the Health Office was in the wrong, and the man who was convicting dealers right and left was not making the least thing about milk or cream. We are glad to know that he has been frank enough to make that fact known."

Chemistry Not Necessary.

The District Chemist, R. L. Lynch, was not surprised to learn that Mr. Hatton was not familiar with chemistry or butter fats. He declared "any man of common sense can tell when milk is below the standard if he examines it after it had set for a number of hours." Members of the Grocers' and Milk Dealers' Associations believe Hatton's admission of lack of knowledge about chemistry and butter fats spells the end of the milk crusade. The case was pronounced today that it will not convict in cases where Hatton's testimony stands unsupported.

Dr. Woodward Amazed.

Dr. Woodward, head of the Health Department of the District, this morning said that it was beyond his understanding why the testimony of Mr. Hatton had been excluded on the ground that he was incompetent to testify.

"It would appear that a man who has analyzed 10,000 and more samples of milk and cream," he said, "and who has been trained by two competent chemists, why the performance of such work, might well have been offered as an expert with respect to that particular line of analytical work. In the present instance, however, Dr. Hatton's function was merely that of an ordinary witness who had full knowledge of the results of certain recognized tests applied to the cream submitted by the defendant. Under what principle of law his testimony was excluded I am totally at a loss to comprehend."

"I have no excuse to offer for the failure of the department to preserve records of the samples taken in this instance, under seal, as the law requires. Due provision has been made for sealing up samples, and the failure to seal in the present instance was due simply to negligence in the chemical laboratory."

INDICTMENTS FOUND
BY GRAND JURY

The grand jury today returned these indictments: Andrew Walker, colored, assault with a dangerous weapon; James J. Hamilton, a marine, larceny from the United States; William Walker, colored, manslaughter, in striking and slaying with his fist, resulting in his death; Elmer Miller, assault with a dangerous weapon; Frank Smith, housebreaking; Richard H. Dunbar, forgery and false pretense; Roland Hawkins, robbery; Mayer L. Lowenstein, forgery; Robert M. Kilgore, larceny from the United States.

BROKER'S FAILURE POSTED
ON CONSOLIDATED EXCHANGE

NEW YORK, Dec. 6.—The suspension of B. W. Bunker was announced today on the Consolidated Stock Exchange.

Bunker has offices in Broad street and was admitted to the exchange May 31.

"Location of Temporary Railroad Platform." A temporary platform has been located at Eighth and Maryland avenue southwest. For the present Washington Southern Railway trains Nos. 8, 23, 29, 35, 39, will stop at this platform. No tickets will be sold or baggage checked or delivered.

Best Coal at Low Prices. R. J. & M. C. Grace, 4th & F ne. Phone Lincoln 233.

Horrors of Disaster
Untold—Rescue
Work Blocked.

Believed Men Dying From Gases Under Ground.

Special Train Takes Hospital Supplies to Sufferers.

FAIRMONT, W. Va., Dec. 6.—An explosion occurred in the Fairmont Coal Company's mines Nos. 6 and 8, at Mongah, today, and 400 are believed to be dead or injured.

Fire almost instantly followed the explosion. If any of the miners escaped death in the blast, mine officials say they will almost certainly perish in the flames.

It was at first reported 1,000 men were at work in the two mines. Later reports scaled this to 700. The coal company's officers now cut the number to 400. Of these 100 reached the surface.

The explosion has not been definitely explained, but was probably due to the exposure of a naked light in some gas-filled entry. The boom was heard for miles.

AIR SENT TO SUFFERERS.

The ventilating fans were instantly started in the hope of supplying those inside with fresh air as well as to enable rescuers to enter. They had been going but a few minutes before smoke began to puff from the shaft. It was soon pouring out in volumes. The interior of the mine is evidently a roaring furnace.

Physicians are on their way to the scene from all the neighboring towns. Officials of the coal company admit that the disaster will be among the worst in the history of American mining.

After counting the men that escaped the officials of the Fairmont Coal Company stated that there are 400 below the surface in the two burning mines. That as some miracle the men in the depths have succeeded in getting into compartments guarded by safety doors all must be dead.

Complete Wreck.

Dense volumes of smoke are pouring from the shaft of No. 6, and shaft 8 is completely wrecked. The mines are located on different sides of the Monongahela river, and are connected by a high shaft. The explosion occurred first in No. 6 and thirty seconds later followed the shaft to No. 8.

With No. 8 shaft well-nigh destroyed it will be some time before it can be explored. Hundreds of experienced miners are ready to attempt the passage of No. 6 shaft as soon as the fire can be extinguished and fresh air forced into the workings.

Rush to Disaster Scene.

The town is in a great state of excitement as a result of the disaster. The curiously inclined are being carried to the mines in droves by all the trains leaving the city. Others are driving, and there are many who in order to get there are walking.

At the company offices little could be learned concerning the explosion. It was said that as yet nothing had been received there, and all the news of the disaster will be given out as soon as it is received. The company is making no effort to conceal anything or keep any of the details from the public.

Even the officials of the company entertain practically no hope of getting any of the men out of the mine alive. If all the men were not killed outright by the force of the explosion, which

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